

JOHN W. MERRYWEATHER

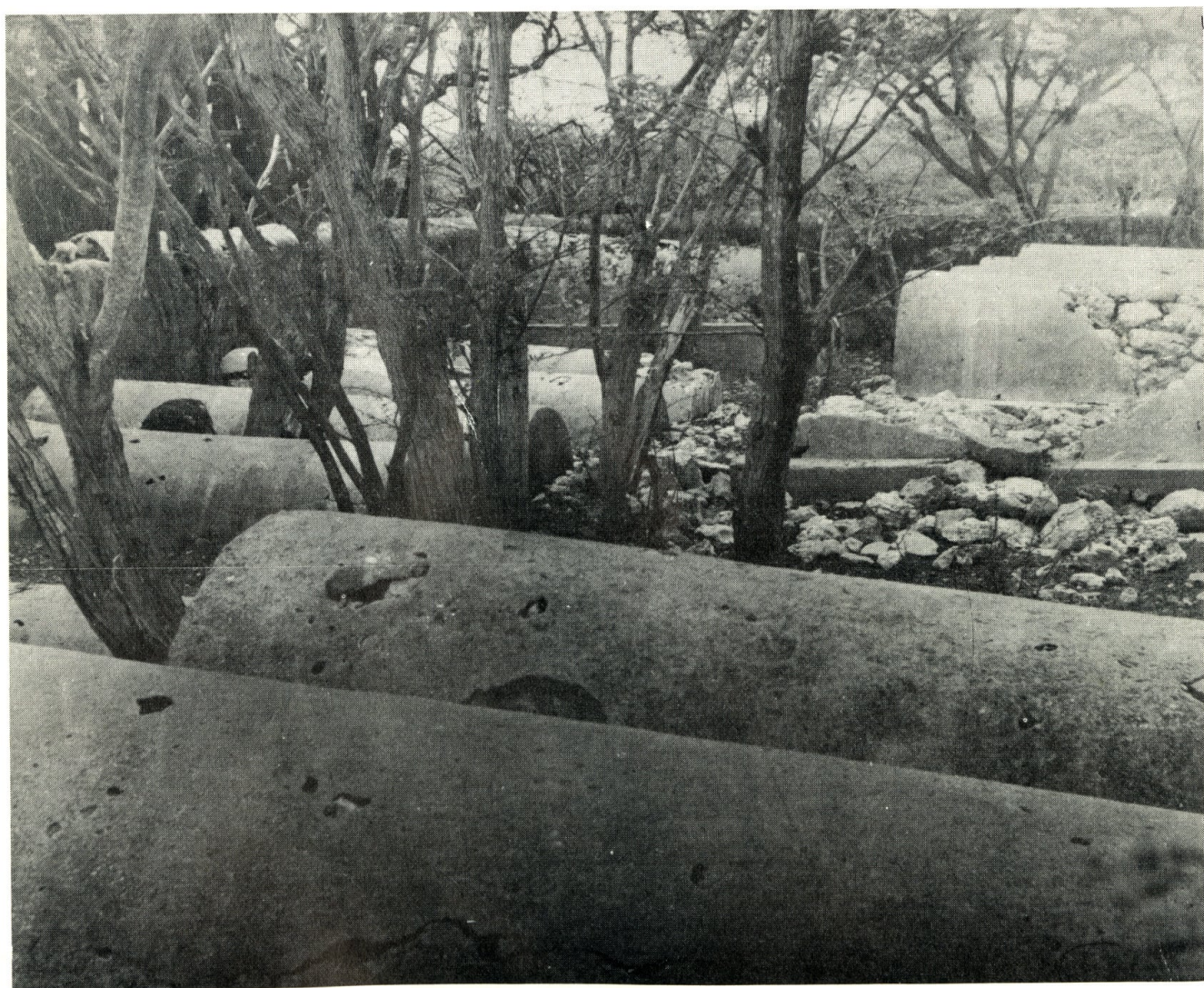


A PICTORIAL RÉSUMÉ
OF NATURAL
HISTORICAL
AND CULTURAL
MONUMENTS OF ARUBA

BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL ARUBA



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OLD CEMETERY

Ponton

Within the five feet high cemetery wall lie fourteen graves, all unidentified. Nine of these graves are mounted on five pedestals while the remaining five are singly placed at ground level. Outside, adjacent to the cemetery wall respectively toward the northern and the southwestern corner, two other groups of graves can be found. The group near the north wall consists of four graves mounted on a single pedestal while the four graves at the southwest corner are not on pedestals.

No information exists as to the identity of the persons buried in these graves.

◀ Old Cemetery
▼



PROTESTANT GRAVE YARD

Ceru Patrishi

In this Protestant cemetery sixteen graves are to be found.

These graves lie on the leeward side of a small group of boulders and are enclosed by a hedge made up of cacti and stones. Known to be buried in this cemetery is Simon Plats, commander-in-chief of Aruba in 1826-1827 (a period of only 8 months when he died suddenly), whose tomb (see bottom picture, next page), the only stone of its kind left, was removed for safe keeping until the establishment of the local museum.

Believed to rest here are also Commanders Jacob Thielen and Johan F. W. Gravenhorst but, as with others, evidence is vague and unconfirmed.

The graves, however, still exist as a unique monument and tribute to Aruba's first commanders, administrators and their families.

Other groups of graves exist on the island but do not compare in monumental value to those described. They can be found at Westpoint and Savaneta with still others singly scattered over the island.

Protestant "Commanders" Cemetery ►

